

## COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

*Exchange of notes at Washington November 21, 1946*

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*The Acting Secretary of State to the Netherlands Ambassador*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON

Nov 21 1946

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to make the following statement of the understanding reached during the discussions concerning the "Proposals for Expansion of World Trade and Employment", transmitted to the Netherlands Government by the Government of the United States of America, and the general international conference on trade and employment contemplated by those Proposals.

Pending the conclusion of the negotiations at this conference, the Netherlands Government and the Government of the United States of America declare it to be their policy to abstain from adopting new measures which would prejudice the objectives of the conference. In this connection your Government has indicated that it may need to adopt special measures for the Netherlands and for the Netherlands Indies in view of the extraordinary conditions consequent upon the termination of the war. My Government recognizes that it may be necessary for the Netherlands Government to take certain emergency measures during the post-war transitional period, and in fact has provided for such measures in the aforementioned Proposals. Any such emergency measures would not, of course, prejudice the objectives of the conference. It is understood, moreover, that modifications in the Netherlands customs tariff, on the basis of the Customs Agreement of September 5, 1944 between the Governments of the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg, would not be considered new measures, since a result of this customs agreement will be that the general level of tariff rates for the three countries as a whole will not be raised. Our two Governments shall afford each other an adequate opportunity for consultation regarding proposed measures falling within the scope of this paragraph.

I have the honor to suggest that this note and Your Excellency's reply confirming the foregoing shall be regarded as constituting an agreement between our two Governments concerning this matter.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

DEAN ACHESON  
*Acting Secretary of State*

His Excellency

Dr. A. LOUDON,  
*Ambassador of the Netherlands.*

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*The Netherlands Ambassador to the Acting Secretary of State*

NOVEMBER 21, 1946

SIR:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of today's date in regard to the understanding reached during the recent discussions concerning the proposed general international conference on trade and employment, and hereby confirm your statement of the understanding reached as therein set out.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

A. LOUDON

The Honorable

DEAN ACHESON,  
*Acting Secretary of State,*  
*Washington, D.C.*